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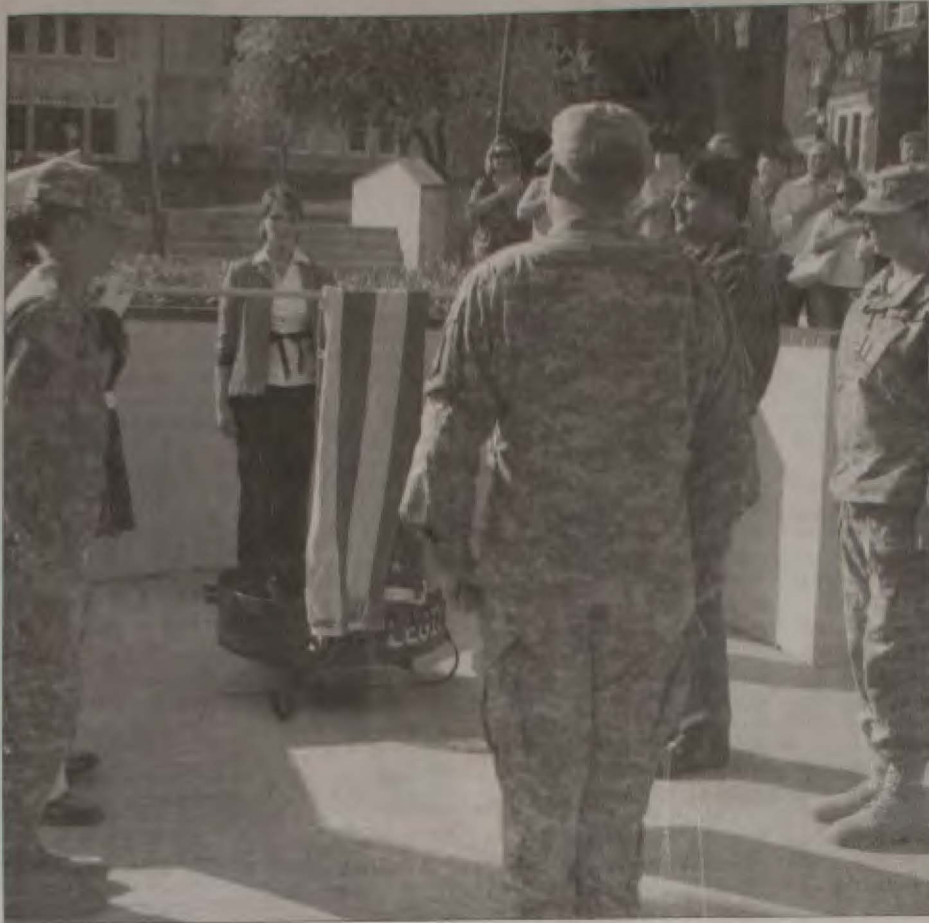
# The TRAIL BLAZER

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MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY

MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY



Alli Collis / The Trail Blazer

Members of Delta Gamma sorority, Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, the MSU veterans program and ROTC held a flag retiring ceremony Tuesday afternoon. The retirement-ready flag was burned honorably. Many attended the event, including MSU President Wayne Andrews.

## Marathon has ties to MSU

LANA BELLAMY—  
MANAGING EDITOR

Those affected by the Boston Marathon double-bombing earlier this week were not limited to only those attending the annual Massachusetts event. Several members of the MSU community had friends, family or close acquaintances that traveled to the race where three died and upwards of 190 others were injured.

MSU student and Ashland, Ky., native Chelsea Turner, said her family-friend, Amy Compston, participated in the Boston Marathon Monday.

Turner first heard news of the bombings while she was on a break during her class. She said her first reaction was just pure shock. She said she prayed and

then thought to check her Facebook where she was comforted by Compston's most recent post saying, "Praise God, we're all okay."

Turner said her hometown had been following Compston through her preparations and training for the Boston Marathon for the past year and a half.

Compston was still in her Boston-hotel room last night when *The Trail Blazer* contacted her.

The 17-year distance runner qualified for the race after she finished another marathon in Myrtle Beach in August of 2011. Compston said she was truly honored to be able to run in Boston for the first time.

She was only two blocks away when the bombs

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## Raider Challenge held over weekend

JOHN DUNAWAY—  
CONTRIBUTOR

Twenty high schools from three states sent JROTC high school students to Morehead State over the weekend to take part in the annual Raider Challenge.

Students from Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia descended on MSU's campus Saturday to tackle obstacle courses, endure a fitness test and show off precision drilling.

The Raider Challenge is hosted annually by the University's Army ROTC program. During the day, competitors took part in a

series of challenging events, from an early morning army physical fitness test, to a run of the treacherously muddy obstacle course around Eagle Lake.

Teams of four worked together to beat their fear of heights on the MSU Recreation Center's high ropes course.

Marine LTC Rick Klinker, the head instructor for Ripley OH's MJROTC program always relishes the chance to bring his students to the competition.

"We really appreciate being invited . . . it

SEE CHALLENGE—page 2



High school students from three states traveled to MSU over the weekend to participate in the annual Raider Challenge, where they tackled obstacle courses and endured fitness tests.

## MSUCorps' Build-A-Bed a success

MARY ALFORD—  
STAFF WRITER

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

This quote from Mahatma Gandhi reinstates Morehead State University's MSUCorps, action for change in the state of Kentucky.

On April 6 at Morehead's Carl Perkins Center, the MSUCorps was able to provide a whopping

100 beds for children in the state through Kentucky's Build-A-Bed project.

With over 1.5 million American children without homes, MSUCorps is doing everything they can to insure kids across the state have the best upbringing possible.

MSUCorps has been at MSU since 1994 with more than 640 members serving. The MSUCorps Program is a Kentucky AmeriCorps Program that serves

23 counties in Eastern Kentucky.

The full time project Director of MSUCorps, Mary Claige Williams said, "The best part of the Build-A-Bed Project is knowing at the end of the day so many children are sleeping in a safe and comfortable bed."

The project targets children in Kentucky with a mission to insure that Eastern Kentucky children are guaranteed a proper place to sleep at home.

Every recipient of the Build-A-

Bed project receives a bed frame and mattress, sheets, a blanket, a hygiene kit, books, night-light and a teddy bear.

Kentucky Build-A-Bed began in 2009 with the distribution of 58 beds. The following year the MSUCorps Program assisted with a state build that took place in Frankfort where 557 beds were built in 24 hours. In 2011, the MSUCorps program brought the program closer to home by hosting a regional build that served

Eastern Kentucky counties.

The overall mission of MSUCorps is to insure the success of high-risk youth providing tutoring and other services.

Counties located in MSU's Build-A-Bed service region include Bath, Bourbon, Boyd, Bracken, Breathitt, Carter, Clark, Elliott, Fleming, Floyd, Greenup, Harrison, Johnson, Knott, Lawrence, Lee, Letcher, Lewis,

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### WHAT'S INSIDE. . .

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#### OPINION



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#### LIFE & ARTS



ARCOS performs spring concert

Keep up with all of the latest MSU news! Check out our new website!



## BOSTON

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detonated, but her family was still positioned on the sidelines, where they had just finished cheering her on, when the bombs went off on either side of them. Eleven children in her family between ages 1-13 years old were present among her support group.

Compston had crossed the finish line 20 minutes before the bombs went off and was ushered into a train station by facilitators of the race, where her husband joined her. She said her family had agreed to meet her by the train. It wasn't until a lady asked to borrow her phone that she realized what happened.

"They [my family] were in between the two bombs," Compston said. "They were probably 25-50 feet from either bomb. They left the area about five minutes before the bombs went off, but they had been standing there all day long."

Compston said she was in shock after she heard the news, but was greeted by a sense of relief when her family called a few minutes later to say everyone was okay.

"It really didn't hit me until we got on the train to go home," Compston said. "That's when I started crying and was like, 'Oh my gosh. We were literally all that close to death or serious injuries. I mean, there were limbs, arms and legs blown everywhere.'"

Compston said the condition of the Boylston Street, where the marathon was held, is tragic.

"Twenty-one thousand policeman, armed men, National Guard, are all over the city with machine guns," she said. "It's crazy walking around down there. They're in the subways, on every corner, on every

street. It's like walking through another country — a war zone."

Even after the disaster, Compston said she doesn't plan to stay away from the marathon in the future. She has already qualified for the race next year.

"[It's] the most awesome race I've ever experienced," she said.

She speculates that the attack will not slow down other runners planning to participate either, as she said a few former Olympians already plan to run next year.

She explains her faith keeps her moving during this tough situation.

"I knew that God's grace, strength and endurance could get me from the starting line to the finish line, but none of us realized how much we truly, truly needed God. If it wasn't for Him, there's no way any of us would be here today. There's no way," Compston said.

She added that is why she dedicates all of her running to God and said she gives Him the glory for her accomplishments.

Molly Kramer, an MSU Nursing student from Newport, Ky., occasionally works with trauma patients in hospitals and works as a paramedic at the Kentucky Speedway during the summer.

Her grade school cross country coach ran in the marathon, but like Compston, Kramer was happy to hear she finished the race early with the first wave of runners and avoided the explosions.

This was her coach's third or fourth time running the Boston Marathon. Kramer said she was a little shook up by the incident, but was

otherwise in good spirits and does not feel this will stop her from running again if she qualifies next year.

Kramer said what struck her most about the incident from a medical perspective is the way bystanders quickly reacted to help the injured. After hearing testimonies from victims and helpers on the news, she feels what little medical knowledge they used helped save lives.

"I personally think, as a health care provider, that we need to train everybody what to do in these situations," Kramer said.

She said the nursing intuition she has developed almost made her wish she had been there when it happened so that she could help the people who had been injured.

As a runner herself, Kramer said she knows this incident will not affect attendance of the race. If anything, she feels it will be the biggest it has ever been.

"I think the relief efforts we need are not just physically helping, but basically thoughts and prayers and donations to help pay for medical care for victims."

She said it's important for people not to live in fear during situations like this and to not let this scare them from going back to the event in the future.

"I consider myself in that group (as a runner) and we're crazy," Kramer said. "We see a hill, and we'll look at that and be like, 'I bet I can run up that.' We may fail, but we'll do it again."

## THE TRAIL BLAZER

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## BUILD

— From Page 1

Magoffin, Martin, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Nicholas, Pike, Powell, Robertson, Rowan and Wolfe.

There are also other builds that take place across the state sponsored by Kentucky AmeriCorps Programs.

MSUCorps had over 200 volunteers this year, double the amount from the previous year.

"This project is one hundred percent volunteer work, and the money is all community sponsors," Williams said.

The families began arriving around 1 p.m. to pick up the beds.

"We had a team of volunteers made up of MSUCorps members, the MSU football team, and the Theta Chi fraternity that helped families load their beds into

their vehicles when they arrive. Sometimes, the kids are with them," Williams said.

The MSUCorps members, along with their partners talk to local businesses, churches, individuals and families to collect sponsors, Williams said.

"This year, we received 192 bed requests, and we were able to build 100 beds thanks to the generosity of our sponsors," Williams said.

It costs \$150 to sponsor a child for one bed.

"We will never know the impact this project has on these students, but we can only hope that they will be able to perform better at school and improve their overall health and well-being," Williams said.

## CHALLENGE

— From Page 1

(Raider Challenge) helps us raise the bar for our own training and is a great opportunity for us to interact with students that we wouldn't have had the chance to back in Ripley," Klinker said.

For the cadets of Eagle Battalion, the Raider Challenge was a teambuilding event as well.

MSU Junior Chris Braccini was the cadet in charge.

"The organization (of Raider Challenge) wasn't hard," Braccini said. "I had good cadets in charge of events, ones who knew what to do. The hardest part was the sheer size of the event, I didn't fathom it until we really started rolling, but it (Raider Challenge) came together nicely."



Students from high schools in Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia traveled to MSU over the weekend to participate in the annual Raider Challenge. The Recreation Center's rope course was used in the event.



Alli Collis/The Trail Blazer

### Alterations

My Le Mitchell

COME TO ME FOR ALL YOUR TAILORING NEEDS!

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Members of the MSU ROTC participated in a flag retirement ceremony. The event was held as a part of Delta Gamma sorority and Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity's philanthropy week.

The Trail Blazer website is back in business!

Visit our website at:

www.thetrailblazeronline.net

to keep up-to-date on all the latest Morehead State University news!



April 18, 2013

THE TRAIL BLAZER

## EDITORIAL

### Education fund good for Ky.

According to the Herald Leader, a new non-profit fund will help support education in Kentucky by funding innovative programs that could increase the number of students graduating from high school ready for college or careers. The private Fund for Transforming Education in Kentucky will distribute funds on two levels. First, the fund will financially support large educational programs with potential statewide impact. It will also be able to underwrite innovative local projects developed by school districts or teachers. Overall, the fund is designed to support Kentucky educators who need financial means to implement and maintain educational programs that work.

The board of the fund will start its work by helping the Kentucky Department of Education administer two recent educational grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation worth a total of almost \$3 million. The fund will also solicit private foundations and other organizations nationwide for help in supporting innovative educational efforts. The fund is designed to help teachers carry out promising ideas in the classroom, or help superintendents carry out programs that will reap rewards in his or her school districts.

Proponents of the Fund for Transforming Education in Kentucky believe private groups are going to have to become more involved in education because state government funding for education remains tight. Kentucky Education Commissioner Terry Holaday said it was becoming increasingly difficult for the state to provide funds for the basics in education, let alone fund special programs and initiatives. This fund will give Kentucky educators a leg up.

The fund is patterned after the Colorado Legacy Foundation, which was formed five years ago to support education innovation. It's been stressed that the Kentucky fund will operate as a funding organization, not an educational advocacy group. Two school districts in the state are already taking steps toward organizing educational measures this fund would back, such as engaging class activities and allowing students to attend college classes.

If used correctly, this fund will be a good thing for education in Kentucky. School districts are struggling without state funding, so financial support must come from somewhere. Anything that better prepares students for college or careers is good for the state of Kentucky.



## VIEWPOINTS

### Justified or just obscene?



LANA BELLAMY  
-  
Managing Editor

Images from the aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombings range from touching to gruesome as news reporters all over the world document the tragedy and panicked moments in Massachusetts.

Three people, including an 8-year-old boy, have died from the attack and

nearly 140 people have been injured. There are photos posted online and on television showing people praying, being rushed into an ambulance, being picked up off the blood-soaked concrete, and more.

What's most disturbing is that one picture posted on CNN showed a small boy, around seven or eight years old, being wheeled from the scene with his leg missing. Another iconic photo showed a woman sitting in front of a puddle of blood on the ground.

As a journalist, I understand

how important the latest and most shocking photos are for a story. However, I do believe choosing to use these images without first asking permission of the wounded, is shameful.

Especially during a tragic time like this, exercising restraint is important to victims' recovery and consolation. What happened to them was bad enough, let alone when they see their bloody images on display to the whole world.

For me, it is a fine line to walk in the journalism field because photos help dis-

play truth, reveal evidence and release the true emotion of an event that a story just can't do.

But I firmly believe that in this instance, publication of particularly, and unnecessarily, gory images is not justified. If anything, it only proves to be distasteful and obscene.

I feel that if news publications were smart, they will take these photos off their websites and use better discretion with respect to the victims and what they are going through at this time.

### Reality TV shines through



MARY ALFORD  
-  
Staff Writer

With mayhem and destruction popular topics of today's society, where is one supposed to turn for lifted spirits?

The answer for most Americans would be reality TV.

According to the Neilson Company the top ten programs of last week consisted of the NCAA Louisville and Michigan game (go Cardinals!), NCIS and NCIS: Los Angeles, 60

Minutes, with the rest being reality shows such as The Voice (27.34 million), American Idol (25.42 million), and Dancing with the Stars (25.28 million).

And who is not to enjoy these shows with our favorite celebrities such as Keith Urban, Blake Shelton, Nicki Minaj, and Kellie Pickler.

These reality TV shows allow a person to escape their own hard reality for a few moments and experience someone else's dream come true. In American Idol we've been able to watch Kelly Clarkson and Carrie Underwood go from common people to record

setting musicians.

Today's world is filled with chaos and sometimes people want a break from all the misfortune in the world. Like the bombing at the Boston Marathon where 3 were killed and hundreds were rushed to the ER for extensive injuries or Kim Jong-un of North Korea and his threats of nuclear proportions.

These TV shows give people the escape they want whether it is good or bad.

According to CollegeMagazine.com college students are drawn to reality TV for several reasons. Like the entertainment

factor not found anywhere else, the authenticity and unpredictability of such shows, and to break up the monotony of their everyday life.

In conclusion, I believe people need an escape from reality sometimes whether it's by watching TV, fishing, or relaxing on a sunny beach.

Sometimes it's good to go home kick off your shoes and enjoy a nice show like Duck Dynasty and laugh some abs into existence.

All these TV shows allow people to forget about harsh reality for a second and enter a carefree zone.

### Be part of the discussion

The Trail Blazer welcomes reader responses. Letters should be 400 words or less and signed. Addresses and telephone numbers should be included (for verification purposes only). Letters must be received in Room 317 Breckinridge Hall or emailed to editor@trailblazeronline.net by 4 p.m. Friday for the next week's publication.

The Trail Blazer reserves the right to edit letters for purposes of clarity, brevity and legal considerations.

## CAMPUS COMMENT

### In what ways do you think sporting events can be safer?



Brad Roberts  
Senior  
Spanish  
Somerset, Ky.

"They're hard to secure because it's outdoors and there are so many people. I guess always have regular patrol before anything starts."



Spencer Johnson  
Sophomore  
Middle School  
Education  
Maysville, Ky.

"Extended security before, during and after the event would help. It's literally impossible to secure the length of a marathon."



Jacob Fish  
Sophomore  
Accounting  
Warsaw, Ky.

"I'm not sure, other than tightening security, which could cause problems and more money for taxpayers."



Chelsea Griffith  
Freshman  
Criminology  
Winchester, Ky.

"I guess heighten security as much as possible. But you can only do so much."



# LIFE & ARTS

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THE TRAIL BLAZER

## ARCOS performs spring concert

ALLI COLLIS-  
EDITOR

The MSU dance ensemble will host its annual dance concert this weekend. However, this year's show will differ from those in the past. This is the first year a professional modern dance company will take the stage at Morehead State.

As a tradition, the MSU dance ensemble hosts a concert every spring. MSU dance professor and ensemble director Natasha Davis said the show is a little different each year, and attempt to bring something new to both the university and the community. This weekend's show will feature ARCOS Dance, a professional dance company based out of Santa Fe, N.M.

ARCOS Dance has ties to MSU. ARCOS Associate Art Director Erica Gionfriddo and Davis are former classmates. Gionfriddo has visited MSU in the past as a guest artist.

"I got this bright idea to say, 'Hey, why not one year, bring your actual, whole company.' We decided that this was the year to do that," Davis said. "We are, as an ensemble, presenting ARCOS Dance as our featured guest artists and residents for the week."

ARCOS Dance is about a year and a half old. Artistic Director, Curtis Uhlemann said ARCOS is a contemporary dance company, specializing in multimedia shows. Though ARCOS will not be doing a multimedia performance in the MSU concert, the company does blend theatre,

video, music and art into its dance performances.

"We're really interested in how those things inform each other to make its own artistic discipline," Gionfriddo said. "So, yes we're a dance company, but there's something for everyone."

There will be a variety of dance performances at this year's dance concert, Davis said. The ensemble will perform modern/contemporary works, along with a jazz piece.

"I always like to close the show with something really fun and huge and fantastical," Davis said. "Overall, stylistically, you're going to see the different styles between what I do and what they [ARCOS] do, but at the same time, similarities. It will be a nice mixture and blending of our ideas. Overall,



Photo by Corrie Caudill

The ARCOS dance company, based out of Santa Fe, N.M. has traveled to Morehead to perform for the MSU dance ensemble's annual spring concert.

I think it will be the best show we've ever had."

This will be the first time a professional modern dance company will take the stage at MSU.

"It's nice to be able to finally share the stage with other artists, and to have these artists here to perform," Davis said. "Before, we've only been able to see her [Gionfriddo] works on my ensemble, but to be able to see her works, and his works along with their company and my ensemble, I think is going to be a big success."

However, an entire dance show takes a long time to come together. Because dance is a minor offered at MSU, the ensemble started rehearsals in September 2012. Gionfriddo traveled to MSU in November and taught the ensemble a dance piece

over a weekend. The ensemble has continued practice ever since, Davis said.

ARCOS, a traveling company, will perform four different routines in the concert. Seven of the company's dancers will be here at MSU.

"We let to incorporate set pieces and different floors with what we do, so we wanted to make sure we did that with this one as well, and represent a part of what we do," Uhlemann said. "We brought these kind of crazy chairs and we put down different floors that change the look of the space. What we're always trying to do is change the regular stage rectangle that you're used to seeing."

The annual dance concert will take place April 18-20 in Button Auditorium with shows starting at 7:30 p.m. There will be a

matinee showing April 21 at 2 p.m. The cost is \$5 for MSU students with an I.D., \$10 for senior children and MSU faculty and staff and \$15 general admission.

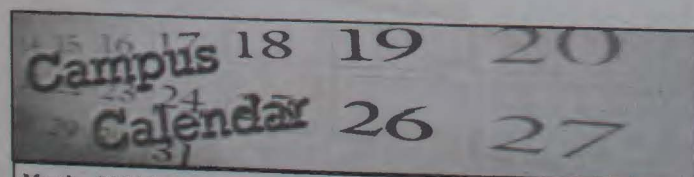
In its time at MSU, ARCOS Dance will also be hosting a master class on April 20 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Wellness and Recreation Center studio. The class is open to anyone with dance experience, and is free to any MSU student. For more information on the class contact Natasha Davis on info@arcosdance.com.

"This is a huge deal for us in our department and our school to say that we have a professional modern dance company performing on our campus," Davis said. "That's very rare. We don't get that and students don't get those opportunities much."



Photo by Corrie Caudill

The MSU dance ensemble is happy to welcome the first ever professional modern dance company onto its stage this weekend for public performances.



**Morehead Writing Project: Super Saturday Writing Camp**  
Location: Bert Combs Room 105  
Date: Saturday, April 20, 2013  
Time: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Music University Chorus Concert**  
Location: Duncan Recital Hall, Baird Music Hall  
Date: Monday, April 29, 2013  
Time: 8 p.m. - 9 p.m.






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Morehead State University news!






April 18, 2013

## Sports In Brief

**EDWARDSVILLE, Ill.** -- Morehead State's men's tennis team rolled to a 5-2 victory over Ohio Valley Conference foe SIU Edwardsville on Saturday.

MSU improved to 7-12 overall and 3-5 in the OVC, while SIUE slipped to 8-8 and 3-5 in the conference this year.

The Eagles swept all three double matches. At No. 1 junior Ji Hoon Heo and freshman Nick Mercer defeated Jonsson Marten and Nico Kuehn 8-6. On court two, sophomore Kevin Deligny and junior David Clifford knocked off Stephen Washuta and Jacob Tanulanond 8-3. At No. 3, the senior pair of Nathan Martin and Hugo Almonte dropped Nicolas Vincent and Patrick Gaffigan 8-4.

In singles action, MSU captured four of the six points by winning at Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 6. On court one, Heo lost to Marten 6-3, 6-1. At No. 2, Martin came away victorious against Vincent 6-3, 6-3.

**CHARLESTON, Ill.** -- Morehead State's men's tennis team scored a 5-2 decision over Ohio Valley Conference foe Eastern Illinois on Sunday at the Charleston High School Courts. The victory secured an OVC Tournament berth for the Eagles.

MSU improved to 8-12 overall and 4-5 in the OVC, while EIU slipped to 7-10 and 2-7 in the conference this year. MSU will be the sixth-seed for the league championship event.

**OLD HICKORY, Tenn.** -- The Morehead State men's golf team turned in a 292 on Tuesday in the final round of the TSU Big Blue Intercollegiate at the Hermitage Golf Course.

The Eagles, who previously fired rounds of 282 and 292, finished with a 54-hole score of 866. MSU placed seventh out of 14 schools in the tournament.

Morehead State senior Sam Zirnheld (73, 212) tied for seventh in a field of 93 golfers, while classmate Matt Logan (73, 213) earned a share of ninth.

The performances mark the first time this year MSU has had two individuals finish in the top 10 of a tournament. Zirnheld recorded his second top-10 effort of 2012-13, while Logan posted his first.

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.** -- Freshman Lauren Tarovsky and sophomore Desmond Bell led their respective squads as the Morehead State track and field teams competed at the Sea Ray Relays at the University of Tennessee this weekend.

Tarovsky clocked a personal best 4:53.59 in the women's 1,500 meter run, besting her time from the Cincinnati Early Bird Relays earlier this season.

Bell won his heat in the 800-meter run for the second straight week, turning in a 1:53.22 time for a season best.

A couple of other Eagles clocked season bests as well. Freshman Wes Morris finished the 800-meter run in 1:58.22. Women's freshman Jasmyne Andrews raced the 800-meter run in 2:22.91. Senior Anya Martinez trimmed her season-best time in the 3,000-meter steeplechase to 11:36.26.

**EDWARDSVILLE, Ill.** -- Morehead State's women's tennis team dropped a tight 4-3 decision to Ohio Valley Conference foe SIU Edwardsville on Saturday evening.

SIUE improved to 8-12 overall and 4-5 in the OVC, while the MSU slipped to 3-16 and 2-7 in league play.

The Cougars conquered the doubles point by winning at Nos. 2 and 3. On court one, the pair of freshman Briar Preston and senior Victoria Cran defeated Kali Donner and Sierra Halverson 8-4.

In singles action MSU came up just short by splitting the matches two to three. The Eagles took courts one, two and three but couldn't build on their success on the back three. At No. 1 Preston came away victorious against Monique Krutak 1-6, 6-2, 6-1. Krutak was the number one singles player in the conference with a 16-2 mark on the dual-match season and a 6-1 ledger in league play prior to Saturday.

**WALLACE, N.C.** -- The Morehead State women's golf team tallied a 303 on Sunday in the last round of the UNCW Seahawk Classic. The Eagles finished seventh out of 14 teams with a three-round 932.

Old Dominion won the 54-hole event with a 917 at the River Landing Golf Course. Georgia State (919), UNC Greensboro (921), UNC Wilmington (922) and Princeton (923) rounded out the top five.

Freshman Anna Appert Lund and senior Marisa Kamelgarn paced MSU with three-round 232s, which tied for 20th out of 74 golfers. Appert Lund posted a 75 in the final round, while Kamelgarn fired a 79.

## Illinois State takes four from visiting Eagles

### MSU's losing woes continue with Redbirds sweep

Zac Vestring — Sports Editor

It was bright, sunny skies here in Morehead this past weekend, but it wasn't so clear for the Morehead State baseball when they traveled into Normal, Illinois.

Illinois State sent the Eagles out of their home with a four-game sweep for MSU to think upon on their way back to Allen Field.

MSU fell to 9-23 on the year while the ISU Redbirds improved to 19-15 on the season.

The Eagles lost an 11-1 bashing to ISU in the opening game on Friday while falling the home team 4-0 and 9-7 in a doubleheader on Saturday. In the final contest of the four-game series, the Redbirds completed the sweep with 5-4 victory on Sunday.

In the opening game of the series, MSU starter Blake Smith fell to 1-4 on the season after allowing five runs on eight hits in five innings pitched. ISU starter Chris Razo pitched a gem for his third win of the season. Razo allowed just five hits and one run in seven innings.

The Eagles lone run in the game came in the seventh and final inning of the game after catcher Drew Williams homered on the first pitch he saw.

The Redbird's offense established themselves early and often in the game, tacking on a three-run inning in the third and a two-run inning in the fourth.

The biggest blow came in the seventh inning when the ISU offense tallied four runs to force the run-rule loss and end the game

in favor of the Redbirds.

ISU starting pitcher Dan Savas improved to 5-0 after allowing just two hits in seven innings of no run baseball. MSU starter Noah Smallwood was roughed up for five runs in five innings, earning his fourth loss of the year at 0-4.

Short stop Chase Greenwell and centerfielder Duran Elmore were the only Eagle players to register a hit in the game.

ISU's only offensive damage in the game came in the fourth inning, but it was all the Redbirds needed. The home team got the runs going with a sacrifice fly that brought in a run, but it was right fielder Eric Aguilera's three-run homerun that put the game out-of-reach for MSU.

Solid starting pitching was the name of the game for the Redbirds in the first two contests, as both starters pitched complete games for ISU. In the third game, the Eagles were finally able to put some pressure on an ISU starter, as Joe Claver lasted 4.1 innings after allowing five runs.

MSU starter Austin Haney fell to 2-2 in the 9-7 loss of Saturday's final game of the doubleheader.

The Eagles stretched their scoring across three innings, including a three-run fifth inning that was highlighted by Greenwell's two RBI triple that scored Gross and Elmore. Greenwell later scored from third on a wild pitch.

ISU's offense came out hot early on in the contest and quickly put the game out of the Eagles' reach with two runs in the first and five runs in the second inning.



Zac Vestring / The Trail Blazer

Relief pitcher Morgan Cirbo pitches against the Illinois State Redbirds on Sunday. Cirbo pitched one inning of two hit baseball while striking out two batters.

Kyle Stanton highlighted the inning with a three-run double to left field and finished the game with five RBI. Stanton's other two RBI came in the first inning off of a single.

The Eagles were lead by Gross and Greenwell, who both posted two RBI.

MSU had a chance to win the final game of the series, but ISU snatched away the Eagle's victory with a ninth inning single to sweep the series.

Matt Anderson last 6.2 innings of four run, six hit baseball, but it was relief pitcher Matt Duncan that earned the loss and dropping his record to 1-3.

Relief pitcher Jeremy Rhoades earned his first win of the season for the Redbirds while starter Brad Sorkin lasted 8.2 innings and only allowed two

runs. The Eagles only plated one runs in the first eight innings and it came in the second after Alan Mocabee scored on Williams ground out.

ISU notched three runs in the first two innings combined and held a two-run lead heading into the ninth inning.

Down 4-1, Greenwell came up with a clutch, bases-loaded double to tie the game at 4-4 and send the game into the bottom of the ninth.

It didn't take long for the Eagles hopes of winning one game of the series to be tarnished as Aguilera singled in a run on the first pitch he saw to end the game for the Redbirds.

In the end, ISU outscored the Eagles' offense 29-12 in the four-game series.



Zac Vestring / The Trail Blazer

Right fielder Brandon Rawe fouls off a pitch against against Illinois State. Rawe finished Sunday's game with a 1-for-3 performance in the 5-4 loss to the Redbirds.



## Softball takes series from Gamecocks

Adrena Anderson –  
Staff Writer

The Morehead State softball team reached as season milestone this past weekend after a three-game series against the Jacksonville State Gamecocks. MSU picked up their first series win of the season after defeating the visiting Gamecocks at University Field.

Despite finishing near the top in the Ohio Valley Conference in recent seasons, the Gamecocks have had trouble with the Eagles in recent series. With the two wins, the Eagles improved to 18-17 on the year with a 4-9 conference record. The Gamecocks fell to 24-19 overall and 9-7 in league play.

Despite the Gamecocks getting on the board first in the first game of the series, the Lady Eagles did not let that discourage them. Senior Kayla Ashbrook hit a solo homerun in the bottom of the fourth inning to tie the game at 1-1.

Then JSU came out swinging and quickly put up three runs in the fifth inning. The game became

a hitters dual when MSU came to the plate in the bottom of the fifth and put up an additional five runs to take a 6-4 lead. The four runs were the only runs the Gamecocks scored in the rest of the game as the Eagles added six runs in the bottom of the sixth inning for the 12-6 win.

In the first inning of the second game of the Saturday double-header, the Eagles got on the board early, scoring five runs and six hits, highlighted by Stephanie Etter's three-run home run. In the top of the third, JSU answered back with three runs to put the game at 5-3. MSU plated just one more run in the game, this time coming in the sixth inning after Elizabeth Wagner's RBI single. Jacksonville State won the second game with a final score of 7-6.

With the series tied at 1-1, MSU came out and got the job done with a 7-1 win on Sunday. The Eagles totaled nine hits on the day, three of which came from Etter.

"The wins over Jacksonville meant a lot," Wagner said. "It showed us that we

are capable of beating anyone."

The two wins over JSU moved the Eagles to eighth overall in the OVC. The top eight teams in the OVC are given a bid to the conference tournament in May. In order to secure a spot in the tournament the Eagles need to keep the momentum on their side.

"We need to win every series we play from here on out," Wagner said. "We don't want to be depending on other teams losses to earn a spot in the tournament."

Senior shortstop Kayla Ashbrook was named OVC Co-Player of the week for the second time this season. Ashbrook hit .444 in seven games for the Eagles last week. She totaled 12 hits, which included three home runs, a pair of doubles and nine RBI. She also went 4-for-4 in stolen bases.

The Morehead State softball team will be back in action this weekend when they travel to face division opponents UT Martin on Saturday and Southeast Missouri on Sunday. Both days will feature a double-header.



Zac Vestring / The Trail Blazer

Senior shortstop Kayla Ashbrook was named the OVC Co-Player of the week for the second time this season. Ashbrook tallied a .444 average in last seven games for the Eagles along with three home runs and nine RBI.

## SIDELINES

### MLB Preview Picks

Zac Vestring –  
Sports Editor

For anyone who is keeping score, the last time I did a season preview pick'em, I did pretty well. Last semester I picked the two Super Bowl contenders, the San Francisco 49ers and the Baltimore Ravens before the 'Harbowl' became a trendy topic.

So now, this brings me to the Major League Baseball season.

First off, let's start with the American League.

In the East, Boston is currently in the lead with a 10-4 record. I don't see that holding up. The top dog in this division will be Baltimore as the Yankees are too old and the Rays/Blue Jays are too inconsistent.

Heading over into the Central Division, this is a no-brainer. The Detroit Tigers are the top dog in the division and it is their division to lose. As long as Miguel Cabrera and Prince Fielder keep driving in runs they will be ok.

Over in the West, the Angels are currently underachieving while the Oakland Athletics sit atop the division with a 12-4 record. Even though the

Angels are everyone's favorite, this is the Athletics year as their pitching is top notch.

The AL Central will come down to the Athletics and the Tigers. As much as I would love to see someone new go to the World Series, the Tigers will make a repeat performance.

Now onto the National League.

In the East, the top two teams in this division are easily the Nationals and Braves. Even though I believe Harper is going to be a super star very soon, the Atlanta Braves will be too deep for Washington to handle in the later parts of the season.

Now in the Central, the Reds and Cardinals will battle until the end of the season, but I truly believe the Reds starting pitching will be the difference maker.

Finally, I believe the West is up for grabs. None of the teams are looking that impressive except for the Colorado Rockies, but they will come back down to earth soon. So I guess will go with the Giants.

The two teams that will compete to head into the World Series for the National League will be the

Reds and the Braves with Atlanta besting Cincinnati.

In the end, the World Series will feature the Atlanta Braves vs. the Detroit Tigers. I really believe the Braves will win it all this year after Justin Upton's MVP season and will send the Tiger's away as losers for the second straight year.

## Baseball loses 13th consecutive game

Zac Vestring –  
Sports Editor

Figuratively, the hits just keep on coming for the Morehead State baseball team.

After Tuesday's 13-5 loss to Big 12 Conference's West Virginia, the Eagles have now lost a season-high thirteen straight games.

The Mountaineers improved to 21-17 on the season while the Eagles fell to 9-28 after five defensive errors cost MSU pitching four unearned runs in the contest.

Starting MSU pitcher Tyler Keele saw his record fall to 2-4 on the season after lasting just a single inning. Keele gave up four runs on two hits. Junior right-hander Ryan Tezak picked up his third win out of the bullpen for WVU after he posted two hitless innings for the home team.

The Mountaineers got on board first with a four run second inning.

After the first two batters of the inning were on base, an errant throw to third base allowed a run to come home for WVU. The second run of the inning came after left fielder Matt Frazer doubled to right center, driving in another run. Frazer later scored on a single by Billy Flemming

and finally Alan Filastro scored after a double play. West Virginia tacked on two more runs in the fourth inning, giving them a 6-0 lead.

Following Justin Fox's single, Taylor Munden doubled Fox in with a shot to left center and scored later in the inning following a throwing error by Trey Gross.

Frazer added another run in the fifth inning with a sacrifice fly that brought in Jacob Rice from third.

The Eagles finally ended the Mountaineer's shutout in the sixth inning after pinch hitter Kellen Begeman came to the plate with the bases loaded. On the first pitch he saw, Begeman drove a single into right field, bringing Nick Duff.

With the score at 7-1, WVU answered back in the bottom of the inning with their own two-run inning. Both of the runs came off of MSU errors as the Eagle defense allowed a run to come in on a wild pitch and a throwing error.

MSU attempted to come-back in the form a four-run seventh inning.

After the first three batters earned their way on-base, centerfielder Drew Williams singled in Greenwell form third. Designated hitter Taylor Sears added another run with

his own RBI single in the next at-bat along with Jeff Birkofer's RBI single. Pickens added the final run in the inning with a sacrifice fly to left field.

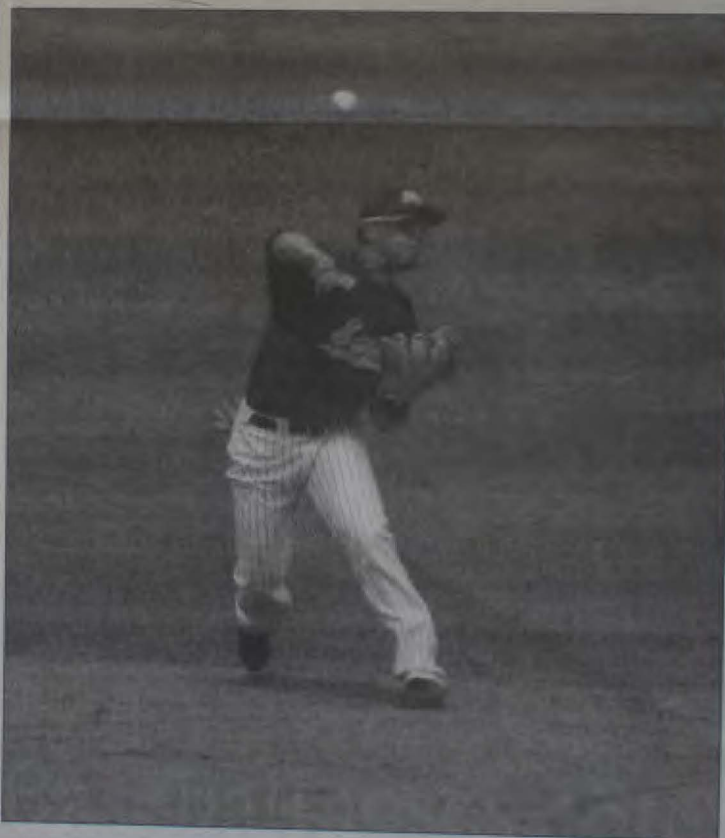
Even with the score 9-5, the Mountaineers felt MSU's offensive pressure and answered back with two runs in both the seventh and eighth innings.

In the seventh inning, Fox grounded out to first on sacrifice bunt that scored the runners on second and third. Shortstop Michael Constantini brought in the game's final runs with an two-run double to right center, bringing the final score to 13-5.

Frazier paced the Mountaineers with a 1-for-2 game along with two runs score and two RBI. Both Greenwell and Sears tallied two hits in the game for the Eagles, while Greenwell scored one run.

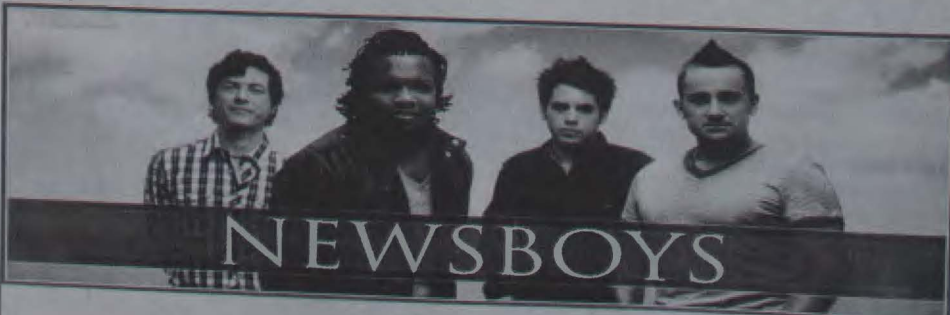
Even though the Eagles lost by eight runs, MSU tallied nine hits compared to WVU's eight.

The Morehead State baseball team is on the road again this weekend when they take on UT Martin in a three-game series beginning on Friday at 7 p.m.



Zac Vestring / The Trail Blazer

Second baseman Jeff Birkofer had a pinch-hit RBI single in the game against West Virginia.



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